

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-09 /129 W  
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R 071802Z MAY 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

US MISSION USEC BRUSSELS 4518

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

WMEMBASSY TOKYO 2700

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PASS STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: PATTERSON VIEWS ON MTN

1. DURING INFORMAL VISIT OF AMBASSADOR GREENWALD  
MAY 5, DEPUTY DG PATTERSON OF GATT SECRETARIAT GAVE HIS  
PERSONAL VIEWS ON NUMBER OF TOPICS BEARING ON FUTURE  
COURSE OF MTN. PATTERSON INDICATED THAT DG LONG WILL  
WANT TO DISCUSS SUBJECTS REPORTED BELOW WHEN AMBASSADOR  
DENT VISITS GENEVA MAY 23.

2. TIMING OF NEGOTIATIONS. PATTERSON SUBSCRIBES TO VIEW  
THAT SOME PRELIMINARY CONSOLIDATION OF RESULTS SHOULD BE SOUGHT AT  
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END 1975. AMONG REASONS CITED WERE NEED TO SHOW PRODUC-

TIVENESS OF MTN; NEED TO TEST U.S. NBT LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES; NEED TO DEMONSTRATE EARLY ATTENTION TO LDC CONCERNS; AND NEED TO SHOW THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOT DESTINED TO STAY TOTALLY UNRESOLVED UNTIL LAST MINUTE (E.G., 1977 OR LATER). HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS PROCESS ORGANIZED THROUGH REVIEW SESSION OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE IN FALL (E.G., NOVEMBER) TO DETERMINE WHAT IS RIPE FOR CONSOLIDATION GIVEN PROGRESS ACROSS RANGE OF NEGOTIATIONS AT THAT TIME. THIS MIGHT THEN BE FOLLOWED BY MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING AT BEGINNING OF 1976 TO ENDORSE FIRST PACKAGE AND FORMALLY DETERMINE THAT FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS BEYOND TOKYO DECLARATION TARGET (END OF 1975) ARE NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE. MINISTERS WOULD IN EFFECT BE COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO EXTENSION OF MTN FOR SOME ADDITIONAL PERIOD, WHICH IN PATTERSON'S VIEW MIGHT GO TO MID-1977. RE QUESTION OF TIMING AND ABOVE SCHEDULE, HE IS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED WITH DIFFICULTY OF ESTABLISHING CREDIBLE AND EFFECTIVE DEADLINES FOR NEGOTIATORS TO WORK AGAINST. THERE IS NOTHING AT HAND THIS TIME ANALOGOUS TO DISCIPLINARY EFFECT OF TRADE EXPANSION ACT EXPIRY DATE DURING KENNEDY ROUND. PATTERSON COMPLAINED IN PASSING THAT U.S., DESPITE ITS EXHORTATIONS FOR RAPID MOVEMENT, WAS TAKING "GO SLOW" POSTURE IN KEY GROUPS ON TARIFFS AND SAFEGUARDS AND WAS GIVING APPEARANCE OF SAME IN AGRICULTURE GROUP, ALTHOUGH HE APPRECIATED US-EC DIFFICULTIES ON LATTER POINT.

3. CONTENT OF PACKAGE. PATTERSON WAS VAGUE WHEN PRESSED AS TO CONTENT OF EARLY PACKAGE. HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD NEED TO BE "SOMETHING" ON TARIFFS; SOMETHING ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS (HE SEEMED TO HAVE IN MIND A START AT ONE OR MORE COMMODITY AGREEMENTS); AND SOMETHING ON NON-TARIFF BARRIERS (PERHAPS STANDARDS, BUT POSSIBLY SOME NARROWER TOPIC). HE FEELS A PACKAGE IS POSSIBLE AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT REQUIRE MAJOR HORSE TRADING AMONG THE US, EC AND JAPAN.

4. REFORM OF TRADING SYSTEM. PATTERSON INDICATED FRANK RECOGNITION IN SECRETARIAT OF FACT THAT MANY GATT RULES, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND RELATED PROCEDURES AND TRADITIONS, ARE OUTDATED AND NEED REVISION. SECRETARIAT STAFF PRIVATELY EXAMINING LARGE NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES FOR RULE CHANGES NOT NECESSARILY REQUIRING FORMAL GATT AMENDMENT. IN VIEW OF SENSITIVITY THIS SUBJECT WITH MANY MAJOR MTN PARTICIPANTS, HOWEVER, SECRETARIAT KEEPING VERY LOW PROFILE FOR TIME BEING. PATTERSON THINKING IS TO BEGIN MOVEMENT IN FALL, ON SECRETARIAT INITIATIVE, TO ORGANIZE

INITIAL INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF REFORM ORIENTED TOPICS, POSSIBLY VIA CIRCULATION OF SECRETARIAT THINK-PIECE WITH "QUITE SPECIFIC" IDEAS. ALL OF THIS WOULD BE CONDITIONED, HOWEVER, ON THE EXISTING TNC GROUPS HAVING MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD ENGAGEMENT IN FULL NEGOTIATIONS. HE DID NOT IDENTIFY SPECIFIC REFORM TOPICS, ALTHOUGH HE AND DG LONG ARE STILL THINKING THAT CURRENT HANDLING OF LOME CONVENTION IN GATT MAY SOMEHOW IMPROVE ACCEPTABILITY OF REFORM DISCUSSIONS IN FALL. (HE NOW SEEMS TO ACCEPT VIEW THAT AMENDMENT OF PART IV IS NOT BEST WAY OF HANDLING LOME CONVENTION. MAIN CONCERN IN HIS VIEW SHOULD BE TO AVOID EC PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL UNDER ARTICLE XXIV.)

5. PATTERSON ALSO NOTED WITHOUT ELABORATION THAT LONG WILL, IN ADDITION, WANT TO DISCUSS WITH AMBASSADOR DENT SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES IN EACH OF SIX TNC GROUPS; SUPPLY ISSUES; DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN MTN; GATT MANAGEMENT GROUP; AND WHAT LONG AND PATTERSON OUGHT TO EXPECT IN TERMS OF U.S. DELEGATION STAFFING AND OPERATIONS IN GENEVA. HARTZELL

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## Message Attributes

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